

from the date of mailing notice of such final decision to the applicant, with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

- (e) An application for renewal of an existing Pound Net Set Permit shall be filed not less than 30 days prior to the date of expiration of the existing permit, and shall not be processed unless filed by the permittee. The Fisheries Director shall review the renewal application under the criteria for issuance of a new Pound Net Set Permit, except that pound net sets approved prior to January 1, 2003 do not have to meet the 1,000 yard minimum distance requirement specified in Subparagraph (d)(4) of this Rule. The Fisheries Director may hold public meetings and may conduct such investigations necessary to determine if the permit should be renewed.
- (f) A Pound Net Set Permit, whether a new or renewal permit, shall expire one year from the date of issuance. The expiration date shall be stated on the permit.
- (g) Pound net sets, except herring/shad pound net sets in the Chowan River, shall be operational for a minimum period of 30 consecutive days during the permit period unless a season for the fishery for which the pound net set is permitted is ended earlier due to a quota being met. For purposes of this Rule, operational means with net attached to stakes or anchors for the lead and pound, including only a single pound in a multi-pound set, and a non-restricted opening leading into the pound such that the set is able to catch and hold fish. The permittee, including permittees of operational herring/shad pound net sets in the Chowan River, shall notify the Marine Patrol Communications Center by phone within 72 hours after the pound net set is operational. Notification shall include name of permittee, pound net set permit number, county where located, a specific location site, and how many pounds are in the set. It is unlawful to fail to notify the Marine Patrol Communications Center within 72 hours after the pound net set is operational or to make false notification when said pound net set is not operational. Failure to comply with this Paragraph shall be grounds for the Fisheries Director to revoke this and any other pound net set permits held by the permittee and for denial of any future pound net set permits.
- (h) It is unlawful to transfer a pound net set permit without a completed application for transfer being submitted to the Division of Marine Fisheries not less than 45 days before the date of the transfer. Such application shall be made by the proposed new permittee in writing and shall be accompanied by a copy of the current permittee's permit and an application for a pound net set permit in the new permittee's name. The Fisheries Director may hold a public meeting and may conduct such investigations necessary to determine if the permit should be transferred. The transferred permit shall expire on the same date as the initial permit. Upon death of the permittee, the permit may be transferred to the Administrator/Executor of the estate of the permittee if transferred within six months of the Administrator/Executor's qualification under G.S. 28A. The Administrator/Executor must provide a copy of the deceased permittee's death certificate, a copy of the certificate of administration and a list of eligible immediate family members as defined in G.S. 113-168 to the Morehead City Office of the Division of Marine Fisheries. Once transferred to the Administrator/Executor, the Administrator/Executor may transfer the permit(s) to eligible family members of the deceased permittee. No transfer is effective until approved and processed by the Division.